

Claims:

1. A lighted line comprising
an elongate flexible wire-formed light source capable of generating laterally
radiating light having an elongate flexible translucent sheathing extending thereabout,
5 an electrical power source operatively connected to said light source adapted to
energize said light source, and
an elongate flexible covering extending about said light source, said covering
constructed to permit light radiating from said light source to pass therethrough.
- 10 2. The line of claim 1, wherein said light source comprises a bulbless
lighted wire.
3. The line of claim 1, wherein said light source comprises an
electroluminescent light source.
- 15 4. The line of claim 1, wherein said covering comprises an elongate rope
through which said light source extends axially.
5. The line of claim 4, wherein said rope comprises a braided rope having
20 an axially extending opening through which said light source extends.
6. The line of claim 4, wherein said covering further comprises an elongate
flexible translucent tube having a central bore through which said rope and light source
extend.
- 25 7. The line of claim 1, wherein said covering comprises an elongate flexible
translucent plastic tube having a central bore through which said light source extends
axially.

10086773.022802

8. The line of claim 7, which further comprises an elongate rope extending axially through said bore adjacent said light source.

5 9. The line of claim 1, wherein said light source comprises an electroluminescent light source and said electrical power source comprises a battery electrically connected through an inverter to said light source to provide alternating current to said light source.

10 10. The line of claim 1, wherein said cover comprises an elongate flexible braided rope through which said light source extends axially, said rope having light passages extending between braided strands in the rope to permit light to pass therethrough.

15 11. The line of claim 1, wherein the light source comprises multiple elongate light source segments coupled together in end-to-end configuration with each light source segment having a visual characteristic different from the segment adjacent thereto.

20 12. The line of claim 11, wherein said visual characteristic is color.

13. The line of claim 11, wherein the light source segments comprise electroluminescent light source segments which are electrically connected in series to be energized by a single power source.

25

14. The line of claim 1, which further comprises a first connector coupled to one end of the line and a second connector coupled to the other end of the line.

10086773-022802

15. The line of claim 14, which further comprises a third connector mounted on said line for sliding movement along the line intermediate the first and second connectors.

5 16. The line of claim 14, wherein a connector comprises a snap lock connector adapted to permit connecting a person to the line.

10 17. An elongate lighted lifeline comprising
an elongate flexible wire-formed light source capable of generating laterally
radiating light having an elongate flexible translucent sheathing extending thereabout,
an electrical power source operatively connected to said light source adapted to
energize said light source,
an elongate flexible covering extending about said light source, said covering
constructed to permit light radiating from said light source to pass therethrough, and
15 a first connector coupled to one end of the covering and a second connector
coupled to the other end of the covering.

20 18. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein said covering comprises an elongate
braided rope having an axially extending opening through which said light source
extends.

19. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein said covering comprises an elongate
flexible translucent tube having a central bore through which said light source extends.

25 20. The lifeline of claim 19, which further comprises an elongate rope
extending axially through said bore adjacent said light source.

10086773.022302

21. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein said light source comprises an electroluminescent light source and said electrical power source comprises a battery electrically connected through an inverter to said light source to provide alternating current to said light source.

5

22. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein said cover comprises an elongate flexible braided rope through which said light source extends axially, said rope having light passages extending between braided strands in the rope to permit light to pass therethrough.

10

23. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein the light source comprises multiple elongate light source segments coupled together in end-to-end configuration with each light source segment having a visual characteristic different from the segment adjacent thereto.

15

24. The lifeline of claim 23, wherein the visual characteristic is color.

25. The lifeline of claim 23, wherein the light source segments comprise electroluminescent light source segments which are electrically connected in series to be energized by a single power source.

20

26. The lifeline of claim 17, which further comprises a third connector mounted on said line for sliding movement along the line intermediate the first and second connectors.

25

27. The lifeline of claim 26, wherein a connector comprises a snap lock connector adapted to permit connecting a person to the line.

200820 E 98001

28. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein said light source is capable of producing light throughout a major portion of the length of the lifeline.

29. The lifeline of claim 17, wherein said light source is capable of
5 producing light in a substantially continuous line throughout a major portion of the length of the lifeline.

10086773.022602